

**3/20/79 [2]**

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

3/20/79

Stu Eizenstat  
Tim Kraft  
Jack Watson  
Anne Wexler

The attached was returned in  
the President's outbox today  
and is forwarded to you for  
appropriate handling.

The signed proclamation was  
given to Bob Linder.

Rick Hutcheson

cc: Jerry Rafshoon  
Phil Wise  
Fran Voorde  
Bob Linder

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

3/19/79

Mr. President:

Rafshoon and Congressional Liaison concur with Eizenstat et al. Phil Wise suggests that "you should reconsider only if you participate in a ceremonial function - no substance or new actions on Vietnam veterans."

Also attached is the "Vietnam Veterans Week" proclamation, which is required by law, and has been cleared by OMB and Aronson.

Rick

FOR ACTION  
FYI

	FOR STAFFING
	FOR INFORMATION
	FROM PRESIDENT'S OUTBOX
	LOG IN/TO PRESIDENT TODAY
	IMMEDIATE TURNAROUND
	NO DEADLINE
	LAST DAY FOR ACTION

	VICE PRESIDENT
	JORDAN
/	EIZENSTAT
/	KRAFT
	LIPSHUTZ
	MOORE
	POWELL
/	RAFSHOON
/	WATSON
/	WEXLER
	BRZEZINSKI
	MCINTYRE
	SCHULTZE
	ADAMS
	ANDRUS
	BELL
	BERGLAND
	BLUMENTHAL
	BROWN
	CALIFANO
	HARRIS
	KREPS
	MARSHALL
	SCHLESINGER
	STRAUSS
	VANCE

	ARONSON
	BUTLER
	H. CARTER
	CLOUGH
	CRUIKSHANK
	FIRST LADY
	HARDEN
	HERNANDEZ
	HUTCHESON
	KAHN
	LINDER
	MARTIN
	MILLER
	MOE
	PETERSON
	PETTIGREW
	PRESS
	SANDERS
	WARREN
	WEDDINGTON
/	WISE
/	VOORDE
	ADMIN. CONFIDEN.
	CONFIDENTIAL
	SECRET
	EYES ONLY

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1979

*Phil - Minimal  
ok - time requirement  
J*

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

STU EIZENSTAT *Stu*

ANNE WEXLER *Anne*

JACK WATSON *Jack*

TIM KRAFT *TK*

SUBJECT:

Vietnam Veterans Week

We would like to ask you to reconsider your decision to participate in a White House event during Vietnam Veterans Week.

The bad image of Vietnam veterans is more than a public relations problem; it stems mostly from their service in an unpopular war. The Nation's recognition of their sacrifice and accomplishments is long overdue. You highlighted this problem during your presidential campaign and again in your moving address last November at Arlington.

Recognizing this problem, Congress mandated an entire week, beginning this May 28, for the country to pay homage to the veterans of our last war. National veterans organizations, Members of Congress, local public officials, the media, and relevant federal agencies will actively participate in this national tribute. A small, personal commitment of your time would demonstrate your support. Traditional and non-traditional veterans organizations will regard your personal participation as evidence of your support for veterans. It is important to reinforce this idea as we seek their support on major Administration initiatives. Your non-participation could be viewed by veterans as an affront and would, in any event, lend credence to charges that the Administration does not really care about Vietnam Veterans.

A White House special event for Vietnam Veterans Week would provide honor and recognition for these veterans and be structured to minimize any opportunity for criticism.

We agree with Max and request that you reconsider your decision to participate in Vietnam Veterans Week.



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20420  
March 15, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: The President  
FROM: Administrator of Veterans Affairs  
SUBJECT: Participation in Vietnam Veterans Week

I respectfully - and urgently - request your further consideration of direct participation in the observance of Vietnam Veterans Week, May 28 - June 3, 1979.

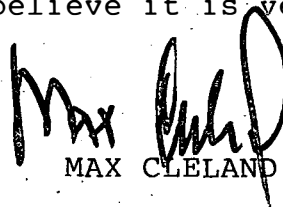
This special week is already being viewed as of paramount importance by traditional veteran organizations as well as Vietnam veteran groups. All of the organizations - representing some nine million members - are most anxious to participate, and are looking to you and the White House for leadership.

I am well aware that you have gone to great lengths to recognize the sacrifices of our younger veterans. Your memorable address and unveiling of the Vietnam veteran plaque at Veterans Day ceremonies last November, your Message to Congress and the Presidential Review Memorandum release of last October, and your repeated exhortations to Americans to respect and honor Vietnam veterans have been deeply appreciated by veterans, young and old alike.

I am concerned, however, that much of this appreciation will be dissipated if there is no direct participation by you in Vietnam Veterans Week. Speaking frankly, I believe your lack of participation would be considered an affront despite all you have already done.

I believe there is a way you can participate visibly and directly without taxing the demanding schedule you must maintain in the conduct of world affairs. I respectfully suggest a White House reception to be held during the week with just a Presidential drop-by. A selected group of outstanding Vietnam veterans and veterans organization leaders could be invited. Your personal appearance, perhaps linked to a Presidential statement on the significance of the week, would be extremely well received.

I very respectfully request you consider this suggestion, or some other form of participation. I do believe it is very important.

  
MAX CLELAND

ID 790979

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DATE: 16 MAR 79

FOR ACTION: PHIL WISE

FRAN VOORDE

INFO ONLY: THE FIRST LADY

HAMILTON JORDAN

JERRY RAFSHOON *concur*

THE VICE PRESIDENT

FRANK MOORE (LES FRANCIS)

*Cable: concur  
Take: nc*

SUBJECT: EIZENSTAT, WEXLER, WATSON, KRAFT MEMO RE VIETNAM VETERANS  
WEEK

+++++  
+ RESPONSE DUE TO RICK HUTCHESON STAFF SECRETARY (456-7052) +  
+ BY: 1200 PM TUESDAY 20 MAR 79 +  
+++++

ACTION REQUESTED: YOUR COMMENTS

STAFF RESPONSE: ( ) I CONCUR. ( ) NO COMMENT. ( ) HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

FOR ACTION

FYI

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FOR STAFFING
<input type="checkbox"/>	FOR INFORMATION
<input type="checkbox"/>	FROM PRESIDENT'S OUTBOX
<input type="checkbox"/>	LOG IN/TO PRESIDENT TODAY
<input type="checkbox"/>	IMMEDIATE TURNAROUND
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<input type="checkbox"/>	LAST DAY FOR ACTION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VICE PRESIDENT
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<input type="checkbox"/>	EYES ONLY
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ID 790979

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DATE: 16 MAR 79

FOR ACTION: PHIL WISE

FRAN VOORDE

*Xc: FM ✓  
SL ✓  
HL ✓  
Ronne ✓*

INFO ONLY: THE FIRST LADY

THE VICE PRESIDENT

HAMILTON JORDAN

FRANK MOORE (LES FRANCIS)

JERRY RAFSHOON

SUBJECT: EIZENSTAT, WEXLER, WATSON, KRAFT MEMO RE VIETNAM VETERANS  
WEEK

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+ BY: 1200 PM TUESDAY 20 MAR 79 +  
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STAFF RESPONSE: ( ) I CONCUR. ( ) NO COMMENT. ( ) HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

*Cable: Concur*  
*Yate: No Comment*

ID 790979

T H E W H I T E H O U S E

WASHINGTON

DATE: 16 MAR 79

FOR ACTION: PHIL WISE

FRAN VOORDE

INFO ONLY: THE FIRST LADY

HAMILTON JORDAN

JERRY RAFSHOON

THE VICE PRESIDENT

FRANK MOORE (LES FRANCIS)

SUBJECT: EIZENSTAT, WEXLER, WATSON, KRAFT MEMO RE VIETNAM VETERANS  
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ACTION REQUESTED: YOUR COMMENTS

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PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: STU EIZENSTAT *Stu*  
ANNE WEXLER *Ann*  
JACK WATSON *Jack*  
TIM KRAFT *Tim*

SUBJECT: Vietnam Veterans Week

We would like to ask you to reconsider your decision to participate in a White House event during Vietnam Veterans Week.

The bad image of Vietnam veterans is more than a public relations problem; it stems mostly from their service in an unpopular war. The Nation's recognition of their sacrifice and accomplishments is long overdue. You highlighted this problem during your presidential campaign and again in your moving address last November at Arlington.

Recognizing this problem, Congress mandated an entire week, beginning this May 28, for the country to pay homage to the veterans of our last war. National veterans organizations, Members of Congress, local public officials, the media, and relevant federal agencies will actively participate in this national tribute. A small, personal commitment of your time would demonstrate your support. Traditional and non-traditional veterans organizations will regard your personal participation as evidence of your support for veterans. It is important to reinforce this idea as we seek their support on major Administration initiatives. Your non-participation could be viewed by veterans as an affront and would, in any event, lend credence to charges that the Administration does not really care about Vietnam Veterans.

A White House special event for Vietnam Veterans Week would provide honor and recognition for these veterans and be structured to minimize any opportunity for criticism.

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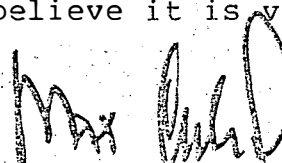
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MAX CLELAND

WASHINGTON

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FOR ACTION: PHIL WISE

FRAN VOORDE

INFO ONLY: THE FIRST LADY

THE VICE PRESIDENT

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SUBJECT: EIZENSTAT, WEXLER, WATSON, KRAFT MEMO RE VIETNAM VETERANS  
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PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

*Stuckly Chronol*  
*Mr President!*  
*you should reconsider org if you participate in a*  
*Chronol function - no substitute or new action on*  
*Vietnam veterans. Phil*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1979

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THE PRESIDENT

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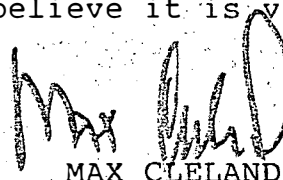
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MAX CLELAND



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

GENERAL COUNSEL

March 15, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM M. NICHOLS

SUBJECT:

VIETNAM VETERANS WEEK, 1979

By House Joint Resolution 1147 (Public Law 95-513), the President is requested to proclaim the seven-day period beginning on May 28, 1979, as Vietnam Veterans Week.

The attached proposed proclamation which was drafted at our request by the Veterans Administration was retyped in this office solely as to form and has the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Attachments



VIETNAM VETERANS WEEK, 1979  
BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
A PROCLAMATION

We are a peace-seeking Nation and we are at peace, but we must not forget the lessons war has taught us, nor the brave men and women who have sacrificed so much for us in all our wars.

The decade now drawing to a close began in the midst of a war that was the longest and most expensive in our history, and the most costly in human lives and suffering. Because it was a divisive and painful period for all Americans, we are tempted to want to put the Vietnam war out of our minds. But it is important that we remember -- honestly, realistically, with humility.

It is important, too, that we remember those who answered their Nation's call in that war with the full measure of their valor and loyalty, that we pay full tribute at last to all Americans who served in our Armed Forces in Southeast Asia. Their courage and sacrifices in that tragic conflict were made doubly difficult by the Nation's lack of agreement as to what constituted the highest duty. Instead of glory, they were too often met with our embarrassment or ignored when they returned.

The honor of those who died there is not tarnished by our uncertainty at the moment of their sacrifice. To them we offer our respect and gratitude. To the loved ones they left behind, we offer our concern and understanding and our help to build new lives. To those who still bear the wounds, both physical and psychic, from all our wars, we acknowledge our continuing responsibility.

Of all the millions of Americans who served in Southeast Asia, the majority have successfully rejoined the mainstream of American life.

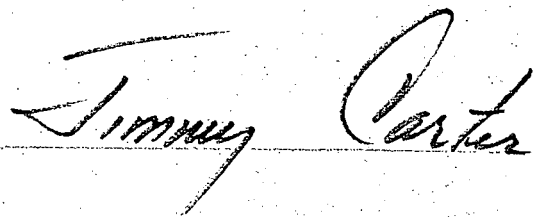
To them, and to all who served or suffered in that war, we give our solemn pledge to pursue all honorable means to establish a just and lasting peace in the world, that no future generation need suffer in this way again.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans to observe May 28 through June 3, 1979, the week of our traditional Memorial Day, as Vietnam Veterans Week. On this occasion, let us as a Nation express our sincere thanks for the service of all Vietnam era veterans.

I urge my fellow citizens and my fellow veterans, and their groups and organizations, to honor the patriotism of these veterans, and to recognize their civilian contributions to their communities in America today.

I call upon the state and local governments to join with me in proclaiming Vietnam Veterans Week, and to publicly recognize with appropriate ceremonies and activities yesterday's service and today's contributions of Vietnam era veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.

X 

ID 790981

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DATE: 16 MAR 79

FOR ACTION: BERNIE ARONSON

INFO ONLY: THE VICE PRESIDENT

STU EIZENSTAT

SUBJECT: NICHOLS MEMO RE VIETNAM VETERANS WEEK, 1979

+++++  
+ RESPONSE DUE TO RICK HUTCHESON STAFF SECRETARY (456-7052) +  
+ BY: +  
+++++

ACTION REQUESTED: YOUR COMMENTS IMMEDIATE TURNAROUND

STAFF RESPONSE: ( ) I CONCUR. ( ) NO COMMENT. ( ) HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

FOR ACTION

FYI

<input type="checkbox"/>	FOR STAFFING
<input type="checkbox"/>	FOR INFORMATION
<input type="checkbox"/>	FROM PRESIDENT'S OUTBOX
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LOG IN/TO PRESIDENT TODAY
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IMMEDIATE TURNAROUND
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<input type="checkbox"/>	LAST DAY FOR ACTION

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<input type="checkbox"/>	ADMIN. CONFIDEN.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CONFIDENTIAL
<input type="checkbox"/>	SECRET
<input type="checkbox"/>	EYES ONLY



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Date: 3/15

TO: Rick Hutcheson

FROM: General Counsel

Although this observance does not begin until May 28, Ellen Goldstein, DPS, advises that early issuance is necessary to launch a number of Government / Veteran's organization promotional efforts.

Bill Nichols

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1979.

NOTE TO BILL NICHOLS

FROM: ELLEN GOLDSTEIN *EG*

SUBJECT: Vietnam Veterans Week Proclamation

The four major veterans organizations requested early receipt of signed presidential proclamation because of their publication deadlines on their April/May journals.

These organizations are: The American Legion, AMVETS, The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and The Disabled Veterans of America.

In addition, we are sending out very soon, packets of information on the Week to public officials, veterans organizations, Members of Congress, and non-profit organizations across the country. We will need photo-ready copies of the signed proclamation for inclusion.

**THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON**

3/15/79

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**TO.** RICK HUTCHESON

**For Your Information:** \_\_\_\_\_

**For Appropriate Handling:** X

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**Robert D. Linder**

give our solemn pledge to pursue all honorable means to establish a just and lasting peace in the world, that no future generation need suffer in this way again.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-nine, and of the independence of the United States of America ~~the~~ two hundred and third.



VIETNAM VETERANS WEEK, 1979  
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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

We are a peaceful Nation and we are at peace. We face our future with promise, and we look back on our past with pride. We have in recent times come through a period of great difficulty and divisiveness, and we have largely overcome it. With this recent history in mind, I now remind all Americans of the war in Southeast Asia, and those who fought it.

The Vietnam war was controversial, long and demanding. It consumed our young men and women, and challenged our leadership. It drained our emotions. We have now overcome much of the tension of those turbulent years.

Of the millions of Americans who served in Southeast Asia, the majority returned home and rejoined the mainstream of American life. Others died there, and for them we express our honor and respect; for their survivors we express our affection.

For all Americans who served in our Armed Forces during the Vietnam Era, we remind ourselves that they have done their duty with full measure of valor, understanding that it was made doubly difficult by the lack of consensus as to what constituted patriotism and further compounded by the lessons of history and the absence of the Nation's gratitude.

And, for those who still bear the wounds of all our wars, both physical and psychic, we acknowledge our continuing responsibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans to

observe May 28 through June 3, 1979, the week of our traditional Memorial Day, as Vietnam Veterans Week and on this special occasion, let us all express our gratitude for the service of Vietnam Era veterans to their country.

I urge my fellow citizens and my fellow veterans, and their groups and organizations, to honor the patriotism of these veterans, and to recognize their civilian contributions to America today.

I call upon the State and local governments to join with me in proclaiming Vietnam Veterans Week, and to publicly recognize yesterday's service and today's contributions of Vietnam Era veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this                    day of                    , in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.



OFFICE OF  
THE ADMINISTRATOR OF  
VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20420

*Rec'd 3/15/79*

Dear Mr. Nichols:

Enclosed, at your recent request,  
is a VA draft for a Presidential Pro-  
clamation of Vietnam Veterans Week, May  
28 - June 3, 1979.

I appreciate the opportunity to  
share the views of this agency about this  
important observance effort.

Sincerely,

MAX CLELAND  
Administrator

Mr. William G. Nichols  
General Counsel  
Executive Office of the President  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, D.C. 20503

## VIETNAM VETERANS WEEK

May 28 - June 3, 1979

By the President of the United States of America

## A Proclamation

We are a peaceful Nation and we are at peace. We face our future with promise, and we look back on our past with pride. We have in recent times come through a period of great difficulty and divisiveness, and we have largely overcome it. With this recent history in mind, I now remind all Americans of the war in Southeast Asia, and those who fought it.

The Vietnam war was controversial, long and demanding. It consumed our young men and women, and challenged our leadership. It drained our emotions. We have now overcome much of the tension of those turbulent years.

Of the millions of Americans who served in Southeast Asia, the majority returned home and rejoined the mainstream of American life. Others died there, and for them we express our honor and respect; for their survivors we express our affection.

For all Americans who served in our Armed Forces during the Vietnam Era, we remind ourselves that they have done their duty with full measure of valor, understanding that it was made doubly difficult by the lack of consensus as to what constituted patriotism and further compounded by the lessons of history and the absence of the Nation's gratitude.

And, for those who still bear the wounds of all our wars, both physical and psychic, we acknowledge our continuing responsibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans to observe May 28 through June 3, 1979, the week of our traditional Memorial Day, as Vietnam Veterans Week and on this special occasion, let us all express our gratitude for the service of Vietnam era veterans to their country.

I urge my fellow citizens and my fellow veterans, and their groups and organizations, to honor the patriotism of these veterans, and to recognize their civilian contributions to America today.

I call upon the state and local governments to join with me in proclaiming Vietnam Veterans Week, and to publicly recognize yesterday's service and today's contributions of Vietnam era veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this            day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-nine, and of the independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and third.

/S/

D 799981

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DATE: 16 MAR 79

FOR ACTION: BERNIE ARONSON

INFO ONLY: THE VICE PRESIDENT

STU ELZENSTAT

[Signature]

SUBJECT: NICHOLS MEMO RE VIETNAM VETERANS WEEK, L979

+++++  
+ RESPONSE DUE TO RICK HUTCHESON STAFF SECRETARY (456-7052) +  
+ BY: +  
+++++

ACTION REQUESTED: YOUR COMMENTS IMMEDIATE TURNAROUND

STAFF RESPONSE: ( ) I CONCUR. ( ) NO COMMENT. ( ) HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

WE RECEIVED THIS AT 5:30pm.  
SEE REDRAFT SENT AT 7:30 - APPROVED BY ELLEN GOLDSTEIN  
DOM PULS

AN 3/16/79



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

GENERAL COUNSEL

March 15, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: WILLIAM M. *Nichols* NICHOLS  
SUBJECT: VIETNAM VETERANS WEEK, 1979

By House Joint Resolution 1147 (Public Law 95-513), the President is requested to proclaim the seven-day period beginning on May 28, 1979, as Vietnam Veterans Week.

The attached proposed proclamation which was drafted at our request by the Veterans Administration was retyped in this office solely as to form and has the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Attachments

VIETNAM VETERANS WEEK, 1979

REDRAFT

SENT 4:30  
3/16/79

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

We are a peaceful Nation and we are at peace. We face our future with promise, and we look back on our past with pride. We have in recent times come through a period of great difficulty and divisiveness, and we have largely overcome it. With this recent history in mind, I now remind all Americans of the war in Southeast Asia, and those who fought it.

The Vietnam war was controversial, long and demanding. It consumed our young men and women, and challenged our leadership. It drained our emotions. We have now overcome much of the tension of those turbulent years.

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For all Americans who served in our Armed Forces during the Vietnam Era, we remind ourselves that they have done their duty with full measure of valor, understanding that it was made doubly difficult by the lack of consensus as to what constituted patriotism and further compounded by the lessons of history and the absence of the Nation's gratitude.

And, for those who still bear the wounds of all our wars, both physical and psychic, we acknowledge our continuing responsibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans to

SECRET  
R

observe May 28 through June 3, 1979, the week of our traditional Memorial Day, as Vietnam Veterans Week and on this special occasion, let us all express our gratitude for the service of Vietnam Era veterans to their country.

I urge my fellow citizens and my fellow veterans, and their groups and organizations, to honor the patriotism of these veterans, and to recognize their civilian contributions to America today.

I call upon the State and local governments to join with me in proclaiming Vietnam Veterans Week, and to publicly recognize yesterday's service and today's contributions of Vietnam Era veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this                      day of                      , in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.



VIETNAM VETERANS WEEK, 1979

[May 28 - June 3, 1979]

By the President of the United States of America *Dep-11*

A Proclamation *11047*

We are a peace-seeking nation and we are at peace, but we must not forget the lessons war has taught us, nor the brave men and women who have sacrificed so much for us in all our wars.

The decade now drawing to a close began in the midst of a war that was the longest and most expensive war in our history, and the most costly in human lives and suffering. Because it was a divisive and painful period for all Americans, we are tempted to want ~~to~~ to put the Vietnam War out of our minds. But it is important that we remember--honestly, realistically, with humility.

It is important, too, that we remember those who answered their nation's call in that war with the full measure of their valor and loyalty, that we pay full tribute at last to all Americans who served in our Armed Forces in Southeast Asia. Their courage and sacrifices in that tragic conflict were made doubly difficult by the nation's lack of agreement as to what constituted the highest duty. Instead of glory, they were too often met with our embarrassment or ignored when they returned.

The honor of those who died there is not tarnished by our uncertainty at the moment of their sacrifice. To them we offer our respect and gratitude. To the loved ones they left behind, we offer our concern and understanding and our help to build new lives. To those who still bear the wounds, both physical and psychic, from all our wars, we acknowledge our continuing responsibility.

Of all the millions of Americans who served in Southeast Asia, the majority have successfully rejoined the mainstream of American life.

To them, and to all who served or suffered in that war, we

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

3/20/79

Anne Wexler

The attached was returned in  
the President's outbox today  
and is forwarded to you for  
appropriate handling.

Rick Hutcheson

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 16, 1979

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ANNE WEXLER *Anne*

SUBJECT: Ethnic-Americans

*Anne - This memo is gross overkill - one or two pages would suffice & I would have read it. Who has this much time to (waste) (spend) (invest) ? I read it - see me J*

Attached is a status report on Ethnic-Americans. It covers where we are, what we have done, and suggestions on actions we can take starting now over the remainder of your first term. Most of these actions are non-budgetary.

Ethnic-Americans constitute a large, important voting block in key electoral states. Although they generally associate with Democratic Party values, Ethnic-Americans feel alienated from this Administration. The leaders of established Ethnic-American organizations are generally Republican. We have concluded that Ethnic-Americans should continue to be approached through individual Ethnic-American community leaders (rather than the leaders of organized groups) and through the Catholic Church.

This paper deals with ways to do that. You should particularly review Tab A which contains a summary on the politics and strategy; and Tab B which contains a listing of possible non-budgetary, non-legislative actions on matters important to the Ethnic-American constituency. At the beginning of Tab B there is one item on which I would appreciate your guidance before proceeding -- the possible establishment of a position of Ethnic Coordinator at the White House.

I should emphasize that, whatever the reality, Ethnic-Americans perceive that this Administration does not care about them as a constituency. This has been

heightened by battles over tuition tax credit and abortion funding, and most seriously by the termination of the White House Office of Ethnic Affairs established by President Ford and the later creation of perceived high level White House positions for other constituencies such as black, hispanic, Jewish and women's groups. I know your concern about creating positions dealing with specific interest groups. However, given the political importance of Ethnic-Americans in key states, I strongly recommend the establishment of an Ethnic Coordinator with attendant high visibility and publicly perceived access to you.

Finally, when I came to the White House, I attempted to improve the White House's relationships with Ethnic-Americans, particularly in the identification of new Ethnic-American leadership which supports the Administration. A listing of what we have done is at Tab D. These efforts, however, have been limited because the only person handling ethnics on my staff is Vicky Mongiardo, detailed from HUD for a limited period of time, without staff support except for one-third of a secretary. She has been working for approximately seven months; prior to that time, the White House had no ethnic oriented activities at all.

Once again, I cannot overemphasize the importance of this constituency to this Administration.

#### Attachment

cc: The Vice President  
Hamilton Jordan  
Tim Kraft  
Stu Eizenstat  
Jack Watson  
Frank Moore



## SUMMARY ON ETHNIC-AMERICAN CONSTITUENCY

### I. ETHNIC-AMERICANS:

For the purpose of this memorandum, "Ethnic Americans" is defined as persons of Eastern or Southern European and Mid-Eastern backgrounds. Further details on this summary is contained in TAB E.

### II. CHARACTERISTICS OF ETHNIC-AMERICAN CONSTITUENCY:

The majority of Ethnic-Americans are Catholic and are heavily working class. This constituency is concentrated in urban areas, but there is also a significant suburban migration. Ethnics are important because of their number and their location in cities and states politically important. Because most Ethnics are Catholic and make up a majority of the Catholic population, statistics on Catholics can serve as indicators of Ethnic population and concerns:

1. There are approximately 70 million Ethnic-Americans.
2. There are approximately 50 million Catholics who constitute 23-25% of the electorate.
3. 50% of Catholics live in New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Massachusetts, California, New Jersey.
4. 70% of Catholics live in the six states above, plus Ohio, Michigan, Texas, Wisconsin.
5. In nine of the 10 largest states, Catholics comprise the largest single religious group, amounting to 30% or more of the population in each state.

### III. POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION:

The Catholic constituency tends to ally itself heavily with Democratic Party values and positions and has traditionally voted Democratic. However, Ethnic-Americans feel neglected by the Democrats and the Administration. At the same time, they are heavily courted by the Republicans.

Party Identification  
of Catholics (Gallup)

	% Democratic	% Republican	% Independent
1960	57	18	25
1971	52	19	27
1975	52	14	31

NOTE: The Twentieth Century Fund study in 1972 shows 47% Democratic, 38% Independent, and 15% Republican.

Catholic Presidential Voting

	Democratic Candidate	1960-1976 % Voting Democratic
1960	Kennedy	78
1964	Johnson	76
1968	Humphrey	59
1972	McGovern	48
1976	Carter	55

#### IV. THE ORGANIZED ETHNIC-AMERICANS:

Most long-established political ethnic organizations, with a general exception for Italian groups, were founded because of a concern about foreign policy, particularly the situation in a native country. The groups tend to be more conservative on foreign policy and the ones most concerned about "captive nations" and human rights issues. For the most part, their leadership is Republican, and they have received encouragement and legitimacy from Republican conservatives. The Democratic Party is perceived to have generally written off these groups.

There is also a large network of organized groups which have a fraternal, social or cultural focus. They are often less conservative on political issues and focus more on the recent emphasis on ethnicity.

While not as numerous as the unorganized Ethnic-Americans, the organized Ethnic-Americans can express their views more effectively because they have greater control of ethnic newspapers and access to the media.

## V. THE UNORGANIZED ETHNIC-AMERICANS:

Unorganized Ethnic-Americans are generally of the working class, mostly Catholic, traditionally Democratic, and are heavily represented in labor unions and service occupations. They include those who have rejected ethnic identification as well as those just beginning to identify with their cultures and roots. In addition, there are disaffiliated ethnics who have become disenchanted with the conservatism of their colleagues and are now uninvolved. Also, among the unorganized are younger intellectual and professional American Ethnic-Catholics who are gaining access to some centers of power, and are more aware of real or perceived discrimination than were their parents. Although an increasing number are beginning to move to the suburbs, many still live in large urban areas and are interested in neighborhood and social issues.

## VI. THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND ETHNICS:

Historically the Catholic Church parish provided immigrants a place to identify within an alien society. Today the local parish hosts religious, cultural and social events, and festivals, relevant to the ethnic group it serves.

The Catholic Church and local parishes are one key to reaching Ethnic-Americans without relying on existing organizational leadership.

## VII. STRATEGY:

1. Use White House events and appointments to create and reach out to unorganized Ethnic-American leaders.
2. Respond to Ethnic-American concerns where policy and budget allows. See Tab B.
3. Attend and support Ethnic-American cultural and social events including those sponsored by local parishes and fraternal, social and cultural organizations. See Tab D.
4. Work with Catholic (and Greek Orthodox) religious leaders on national policy issues. See Tab C.
5. Give special attention to leaders of organized groups who are politically neutral or convertible. See Tab D.



B

COMMON CONCERNS SHARED BY  
ETHNIC-AMERICANS AND OPTIONS

This constituency shares many of the concerns of other Americans such as full employment, inflation, care of the elderly, adequate health care and social services, increased taxes, high cost of housing, increasing interest rates, urban, educational and environmental issues.

In addition to those concerns that are shared with society in general, Ethnic-Americans also have common concerns among themselves.

The following is a list of common concerns as expressed by Ethnic-Americans and some options which can be further developed for dealing with them. It is divided into domestic and international concerns. The key institutional Catholic concerns, as expressed in a memorandum from the Catholic Bishops, are handled separately at Tab C.

DOMESTIC ISSUES

1. Discontinuation of the White House Office of Ethnic Affairs

This office, established by the Ford Administration in March 1975, provided a center of access not only for ethnics, but also for neighborhood groups and Catholics as well. It had high visibility and status, and was perceived as having access to the President. The Carter Administration discontinued this office as part of a policy of not having special White House offices for groups. The situation has been exacerbated in the eyes of Ethnic-Americans by the creation of special positions with high visibility for other interest groups such as Black, Jewish, Hispanic and women's groups. In contrast, this constituency feels ignored and neglected by the Administration since their concerns are being handled by a staff person who in fact is a temporary consultant on detail from a Federal agency. This lack of visible permanent commitment by the Administration directly relates to this constituency's feelings of exclusion. Continuation of this temporary situation causes serious problems.

I recommend the creation of a White House staff position of ethnic coordinator with staff support (a total of 3 people), publicly identified as such and given high visibility in ethnic communities and among Catholics.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. National Neighborhood Commission

The Commission which you appointed will be completing its final report in March. It is expected that the Commission will have over 150 recommendations that cut across several agencies and involve a range of administrative and regulatory changes, and limited new legislation. Some might be very controversial.

Following a review of the Commission's recommendations, we will prepare a separate memorandum on White House involvement and follow-up, including the question of participation by Mrs. Carter, the Vice President and you.

## 3. Anti-Defamation

There is concern among Italian, Polish, Arab-Americans, and other groups that the Administration is lax in using its influence to discourage ethnic slurs and stereotypic practices in governmental agencies and outside the government, especially in the media. A couple of defamatory acts have occurred in the Administration which were handled at the agency level.

One action which you could take is to send a memorandum to the agencies asking personnel to refrain from making remarks that could be interpreted as defamatory. The timing of such a memorandum will be important, and I

would discuss this with Hamilton and Jerry before recommending a memorandum to you.

#### 4. Affirmative Action

The Civil Rights Act (Title VII) makes illegal discrimination based on race, religion, sex, or national origin. Ethnic-Americans are concerned that the Act is interpreted so as not to cover discrimination against European and Mid-Eastern ethnics. In fact, the OMB definition of "national origin" does not include European and Mid-Eastern Ethnic-Americans.

Ethnic-Americans believe that they are subject to discrimination which blocks their full entry into the system and is more subtle because they are not readily distinguishable in terms of color. The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and other enforcement agencies are perceived to have made little effort to deal with discrimination against Ethnic-Americans. Even though complaints are received, there is no system for tracking the number and disposition of them.

The Census Bureau and other statistic-gathering agencies do not obtain information on the number of Ethnic-Americans in the work force, their occupations and their wages. This is also perceived as contributing to the lack of anti-discrimination efforts.

To deal with this problem, I will work with Jim McIntyre and Eleanor Holmes Norton on establishing a small working group to consult with Ethnic-Americans and develop options for definitions of "national origin" and possible inclusion of Ethnic-Americans in discrimination coverage.

#### 5. Improvement of Census Techniques to Allow for Ethnic Self-Identification

Since eligibility for many federal programs depend on population estimates, Ethnic-American groups are demanding better counts of their population. In addition, Ethnic-American groups feel the Census Bureau provides no adequate data on their social and economic characteristics or their employment. Commerce has made an effort to deal with these issues for the 1980 Census.

The 1980 Census raises problems relevant to several groups -- minorities, women and Ethnic-Americans. Louis Martin, Sarah Weddington and I will obtain a report from

Juanita Kreps on how these problems are being handled. If good enough, the report can be made available to relevant groups. In addition, Juanita might want to appoint a visible Ethnic-American to an appropriate Census position. Finally, as part of the discrimination problem, I will work with Jim McIntyre to determine how a common definition of "Ethnic-American" can be developed for use throughout the government.

## 6. High Level Appointments

Ethnic-Americans express concern about Administration sensitivity to the appointment of members of their groups to Administration positions, federal judgeships, commissions and positions at regional agency levels.

We are working with Arnie Miller to assure consideration of Ethnic-Americans for political appointments, and will develop a roster of appointees so far. Each appointee should be asked to become more visible with the relevant Ethnic-American groups. Depending on the results, we might ask you to send an appropriate memorandum to the agencies requesting special sensitivity to this constituency in making appointments. I will consult with you about this if the need should arise.

## 7. Ethnic Studies and Related Programs

The Ethnic Studies Program, Title IX of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, was established as the result of intensive lobbying by Ethnic-Americans, and sympathetic Members of Congress. Although it has been authorized at \$15 million, it has usually been funded at a level between \$1.8-2.5 million. This program is highly visible to organized Ethnic-Americans, but is perceived as a low priority at HEW. The program apparently suffers from its location within the Office of Education (hidden among international education programs) and lack of support from those to whom the program leaders report. (See Tab F - Ethnic Heritage Studies.)

We are exploring several actions, and I will communicate with you by separate memorandum on what can be done:

1. Immediately fill the vacancies on the Title IX Advisory ~~Commission~~ and give high visibility to the appointees.

2. Have OMB and HEW develop options for improved location and greater emphasis.

3. Convene a White House meeting including Commission members, prominent Ethnic-Americans, and representatives from HEW and other relevant Agencies to explore how inter-cultural and ethnic studies programs can be better integrated into the total educational effort, and options for improving the Ethnic Studies Program. I would host the meeting and a drop-by for the Vice President or you could be considered.

4. Look into increased funding for the FY '81 budget.

#### 8. Democratic National Committee

(1) The Democratic National Committee recently voted to eliminate consideration of European and Mid-Eastern ethnics as a special population group; (2) DNC's Nationalities Committee has minimal resources and has not been effective.

Two actions which I will explore with Hamilton, Tim and John White are:

1. A meeting of key Administration officials, John White and others with concerned Ethnic-Americans to explore solutions to the special population group problem.

2. Appointment of a replacement for Mayor Wagner as Chairman of the DNC's Nationalities Committee (he is now U.S. Representative to the Vatican) and reorganization of the Committee.

#### 9. Ellis Island

In November, 1954, the Ellis Island station was closed as an immigration station. In the next decade the station fell into ruin. In 1964, then Secretary of the Interior Stuart Udall suggested that the Island become a national monument. President Johnson designated it as such, but a proposed Congressional plan for restoration was abandoned.

The restoration and creation of a national monument has become the focus of concern of various ethnic groups. (Legislation designed to assist Ellis Island may be introduced.) An estimated 12 million people entered the U.S. through Ellis Island. It is said that almost half of our

present population has some tie with individuals entering the U.S. through Ellis Island. This is an issue which could create high visibility and political mileage.

Some options which I will ask Interior to explore and present by separate memorandum include:

- (1) If budgetary constraints permit, initiating or supporting appropriate legislation.
- (2) Asking Mrs. Carter or Mrs. Mondale to agree to serve on an honorary committee that is attempting to raise money for this project.
- (3) Creating an event during which a speech on pluralism, diversity and the contributions of Ethnic-Americans could be made on the Island before leaders of different ethnic groups.

#### 10. Economic and Social Dislocation in Neighborhoods

The removal of an industrial or military complex always creates economic and social problems for individuals and their community. However, Ethnic-Americans have especially felt the consequences from recent events in Youngstown, Ohio, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

- (1) Frankford Arsenal. The closing of the Frankford Arsenal in April, 1977 and the gradual phasing out of the Navy Yard in south Philadelphia has had a serious negative impact on this multi-Ethnic, Catholic area. Father Joseph Marino, the Institute for Community Issues, and community groups have been working to get repairs on the Saratoga aircraft carrier transferred to Philadelphia. Vice President Mondale publicly promised to do this during the campaign. Although an affirmative decision has been made, there is still local concern since another affirmative decision previously made was reversed.

The Administration should continue to privately support the Saratoga's move to Philadelphia. Should the final decision to move the Saratoga be positive, a special victory event, inviting the Vice President should be considered. Father Marino in Philadelphia will organize this. We will work with the Vice President on an appropriate event at the right time.

(2) Youngstown, Ohio. Jack Watson, HUD, Commerce, Labor and others continue to work on this problem which is made difficult by competing local groups. The local economy is in much better shape than some would admit. However, the Youngstown area gave you your largest Ohio voting percentages in 1976, but elected a Republican Congressman in 1978. It is heavily Ethnic-American and we will look for the appropriate event to demonstrate your concern or announce any positive actions.

#### 11. Ethnic Festivals

In many key states, especially the large urban areas, local groups have neighborhood or ethnic festivals and other events. The presence of the President and other key Administration people would be an excellent forum for reaching large masses of people (unorganized ethnics) that are not reached through other means. Often these events involve significant participation by local religious institutions. A recent study done by the Christian Science Monitor showed that people are more involved in their local neighborhood and religious institutions than anything on the national level and that this leadership is trusted more than that of their politicians. You were very successful during the campaign in places like Polish Hill. This would also help with another goal of having you identified more with local people rather than just leaders.

A list of events appropriate for attendance by you and others is being developed for consideration in scheduling for the next 12 months.

#### INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

The following list of international concerns reflects issues raised mostly by organized Ethnic-American groups. No particular actions are suggested in response, although some are covered in dealings with individual groups. However, where United States policy is consistent with the concerns raised, continued visibility should be given to our position by events like the Human Rights Ceremony at the White House last December.

##### 1. Human Rights

- a. Lack of visible Administration concern about individual dissidents and political prisoners from



the mother countries of individual Ethnic groups.

b. Failure of the Administration to accomplish or publicly pursue solutions in various countries where there is serious conflict and human rights of ethnic religious groups are being violated:

- Hungarians in Romania
- Greeks in Cyprus
- Catholics in Northern Ireland
- Armenians in the Middle East
- Croatians (Catholics) in Yugoslavia

c. Insufficient emphasis on national rights and self-determination.

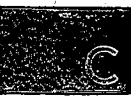
d. Lack of continued effort to obtain United States ratification of certain United Nations conventions and instruments and failure to fully enforce certain other human rights conventions and instruments.

## 2. Soviet-American Relations

a. Lack of sufficient safeguards under SALT II. (A new group called Alliance for Freedom, headed by Phil Crane and composed heavily of Eastern European Ethnics, intends to work against the ratification of SALT II.)

b. Need for continued American non-recognition of incorporation of Baltic States into USSR.

c. Need for United States to show less trust in the Soviet Union.



ACTIVITIES WITH INDIVIDUAL  
ETHNIC CONSTITUENCIES, CATHOLICS  
AND NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

The following is a summary of the perspective of individual Ethnic groups and activities with various Ethnic-American groups as well as Catholics and neighborhood groups. Emphasis is given to activities since June, 1978, when Vicki Mongiardo was made available to the White House as an Ethnics Consultant. It should be recognized that this work was limited by lack of any staff support and by the temporary nature of her status.

ARAB-AMERICANS

Arab-Americans have felt totally excluded from any significant participation within the Administration. They are especially concerned about the Middle East and feel their opinions and concerns have not been sought. They are concerned about the Palestinian question and the situation in Lebanon. They are also concerned about recognition and participation in the Administration both on the appointment and policy-making level. We have, however, begun to build a relationship with this group.

1. Meetings/Events Organized by the White House

a. Held meetings with representatives of NAAA (National Association of Arab Americans) during which time they expressed their disappointment about their exclusion, etc.

b. Invited ten Arab-Americans to an East Room Inflation Briefing with the Vice President and reception.

2. Events Attended:

a. Delivered Presidential message and short speech at dinner honoring Senator Abourezk. Other Congressmen, Senators and leaders from various Arab-American communities were present (500 attendees).

3. Work in Progress:

a. Exploring the possibility of a White House briefing and reception for the Rashid family (200 people). Would be opportunity for the Administration to demonstrate concern for family-related issues, as well as showing concern for Lebanese people. Decision to be made with NSC and State taking into account Middle East developments.

4. Future Possibilities:

a. White House briefing on the situations in the Middle East and Lebanon for representatives of the Arab-American community.

BALTIC GROUPS: LITHUANIANS, LATVIANS, ESTONIANS

Most work has been with the largest of these groups, the Lithuanians. However, in events and meetings at the White House, there has been Latvian and Estonian representation. International concerns center around Baltic issues such as maintaining U.S. policy of non-recognition of the incorporation of the Baltic States by the Soviet Union, human rights violations, freedom of political prisoners, and family reunification.

These groups are smaller, more well-organized. They tend to be more Republican than most ethnic groups. However, because of our special concern and outreach, and our policy on human rights, the Lithuanians have become strong supporters. The Lithuanian-American Community of the USA, Inc., issued a public statement supporting the Administration's position on China (they have been the only Eastern European organization to do this).

1. Meetings/Events Organized by the White House:

- a. Meeting held with Vice President and top leadership of Baltic representatives on 6/13/78.
- b. Briefing for 225 Lithuanian-Americans held on 11/16/78 covering foreign and domestic priorities and human rights.
- c. White House reception on 11/16/78 for 225 people hosted by Mrs. Carter. (First time a White House event was held for this group.)
- d. Arrangements for Dr. Brzezinski to receive Human Rights award that the Lithuanian American Community of the USA, Inc., awarded to the President.
- e. Invitations extended to individuals to attend White House briefings, such as Defense, Inflation, Energy, hospital cost containment, Human Rights commemoration.

2. Events Attended:

- a. Banquet dinner, Washington, D.C. sponsored by Lithuanian-American Community, USA, Inc., (approximately 200 people). Two members of the

Administration, Geno Baroni, Assistant Secretary, HUD and Victoria Mongiardo (Ethnic Affairs, White House) received awards. (Short speech given.)

c. Reception at Lithuanian Delegation -- was introduced to all.

d. Participation in program and reception on 2/11/79 commemorating Lithuanian Independence Day (400 people - Georgetown University). (Short speech delivered.)

3. Work Completed:

a. Researched and arranged for the President's mentioning of Lithuanian Catholic dissident, Victor Petkus, during a Presidential Press Conference. (Received approximately 400 telegrams and letters of appreciation; President's remarks were covered in all Lithuanian papers and radio programs.)

b. The appointment of Elona Vasnys, professor at Yale University, to Presidential Commission dealing with International Education (this appointment was covered in all Lithuanian press).

4. Work in Progress:

a. Cooperating with Mr. Ray Chesonis, who is developing a plan to organize Lithuanians for Carter in 1980.

b. Cases of individual dissidents and political prisoners (progress is extremely slow).

c. Continuing to identify representatives and integrate them in White House activities.

GREEK-AMERICANS

Given the Administration's reversal of the campaign promise made to sustain the Turkish arms embargo, our relationship with Greek-Americans has been very strained. -?

1. Meetings/Events Organized by the White House:

a. Worked with Congressional Liaison, NSC developing lists for briefing of approximately 200 Greek-Americans on the Cyprus issue on June 22, 1978. A reception followed; follow-up thank you letters were sent. The meeting helped lessen their bitterness and showed the Administration's concern for a solution.

b. Included Greek-American religious leaders (e.g. Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America) in meetings and briefings on the foreign Assistance Bill (July 31, 1978) and Urban Policy (September 28, 1978).

2. Events Attended:

a. National dinner sponsored by the AHEPA, American Hellenic Education and Progressive Association, held in honor of Prime Minister Karamanlis on June 2, 1978 at the Mayflower Hotel in D.C. Five hundred guests were in attendance. White House presence noted.

3. Work in Progress:

a. Consideration of Judge Thomas Lambros, a Greek-American and U.S. District Judge in Cleveland, for appointment to the Sixth Circuit Court in Ohio.

b. Continual updating of Greek lists, to be used by the Press Office and for future involvement of Greek-Americans in Administration activities.

4. Future Possibilities:

a. Convene a second meeting of those individuals

who attended the Greek-Turkey meeting once there has been a breakthrough on the Cyprus situation. (Nimitz - State Department agrees with this.)

b. Consider a Presidential or Vice Presidential meeting with Greek Congressional Caucus assuring them of continued commitment to work toward a solution on the Cyprus issue.



HUNGARIAN-AMERICANS

Our relationship with this group has been strained due to the lack of consultation with them prior to our decision to return the Crown of St. Stephen. This issue divided the Hungarian-American Community.

1. Meetings/Events/Organized by the White House:

a. Several meetings with Mr. Hamos and Mr. Veras of the "Human Rights in Romania" organization, (a highly credible organization whose issue, human rights for Hungarians in Romania and Transylvania, is unanimously supported by the Hungarian-American Community). Arranged for Hamos and Veras to meet with the State Department and National Security Council officials.

b. Cooperated with the State Department in a briefing of 80 Hungarian-Americans (11/17/78). This was the first time a group of Hungarian-Americans representing diverse backgrounds and points of view have met together. Follow-up meetings have been arranged.

2. Events Attended:

a. New Brunswick (New Jersey) ethnic festival organized by various Hungarian-American churches. New Brunswick is 70-80% Hungarian, and was very supportive in the last election. (White House presence noted.)

b. Represented Mrs. Carter at the Birmingham Ethnic Festival (Toledo, Ohio; Congressman Ashley's District). A telegram from the President was read, and a short speech delivered. (This voting area was crucial to the President in Ohio in 1976.)

c. Attended an informal meeting and supper of the D.C. Hungarian Freedom Fighters Association (100 persons). They were greatly honored by our presence.

d. Performance of the Budapest Symphony at the Kennedy Center. Accompanied by 9 Hungarian-Americans and seated in the Presidential box.

3. Work in Progress:

a. Plans for a White House briefing on foreign and domestic issues, followed by a reception. Briefings would focus on the concerns of Hungarian-Americans and presentation of Administration priorities. A special briefing on SALT II coupled with Human Rights will be presented. Key Administration persons will be involved.

Attendees: Organized and unorganized Hungarian-Americans highlighting those people we want to give credibility to and seek support from later on.

Event will be covered by Press and appear in Hungarian-American newspapers.

4. Future Possibilities:

a. Identify key individuals qualified for appointments or commissions. Publicize these appointments if and when made.

b. Continue the invitation of well-respected Hungarian-Americans to White House briefings on Human Rights and other issues.

## ITALIAN-AMERICANS

This group, the largest of the ethnic groups (approximately 30 million) does not feel adequately represented in the Administration or in key government positions. Unlike other ethnic groups (Greek-Agnew; Polish-Muskie) they have never had a candidate seriously considered for the Vice-Presidency, nor a member appointed to the Supreme Court. They have seriously suffered discrimination because of the immediate association of Italian-Americans with organized crime (made by society, government officials and media).

1. Meetings/Events Organized by the White House:

- a. White House Reception on 9/15/78 hosted by Mrs. Carter which involved most of the leaders in the Italian-American community throughout the country. (500 attendees)
- b. Prepared briefing material for Presidential and Vice Presidential speech writers for 9/14/78 Gala Dinner honoring Italian-American Congressional delegation.
- c. Worked with Vice Presidential staff in preparation for NIAF (National Italian American Foundation) board members dinner at Vice President's home.

2. Events Attended:

- a. September 14, 1978 Gala Dinner honoring Italian-American Congressional Delegation (High White House presence: VP, Wexler, etc.)
- b. Award dinner given by Italian-American government in honor of Judge Edward Re, New York (25 attendees).

3. Work Completed:

- a. Columbus Day Proclamation - copies sent to key list.

4. Work in Progress:

- a. Arrangements are being made for Sarah Weddington to address Cleveland Women's City Club on June 7th (heavily Ethnic-Italian group).

b. Working with the NIAF in planning for their International Conference on Italian-Americans in the 80's, which is co-sponsored by NIAF and the Agnelli Foundation (FIAT). It will be held on May 10-12.

c. Mrs. Mondale has agreed to be on the honorary committee which will host a cultural event at the Kennedy Center involving famous Italian artists on May 12, 1979. They would like the President and Mrs. Carter to also be honorary Co-Chairpersons.

5. Future Possibilities:

a. Prepare lists of key organizational leaders and other important individuals, and continue to include them in Administration activities.

b. Identify and pursue possibilities of qualified individuals for full-time appointments to commissions, Federal judgeships.

c. Consider possibility of a Presidential memorandum to agencies dealing with the elimination of the term "Mafia", organized crime and the discrimination that results from such terms.

POLISH-AMERICANS

In the domestic arena, Polish-Americans are interested in the issues that other Ethnic-Americans have raised. In particular they have been most vocal on their concern about discrimination (Polish jokes). They have also raised concerns regarding lack of key appointments to Administration positions and consideration for judicial appointments. They have also been vocal on issues regarding the Census. This group is somewhat alienated from the Administration because they do not have significant representation.

1. Meetings/Events Organized by the White House:

- a. Assisted the State Department in conducting a one-day Conference at the State Department on 10/5/78 at which time many issues and concerns were raised regarding relationship between Poland and the U.S.
- b. Invited individuals to White House briefings on Defense, Inflation, Budget, Human Rights, etc.

2. Events Attended:

- a. State Department briefings and reception (approximately 200 people).
- b. Commemorative service for General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Polish General, 1746-1817. (Small group - organized by Polish Embassy.)

3. Work Completed:

- a. Assisted in compiling a list of Polish-Americans to attend the Papal installation.
- b. Worked on the census issue with Domestic Policy and OMB staff. The issue (regarding Question 14, on ancestry) is not yet resolved.

4. Future Possibilities:

Considering major Polish-American event for President or Vice President to attend.

### CATHOLICS

There are about 50 million Catholics comprising between 23-25% of the electorate. They vote heavily Democratic and are located primarily in the large urban areas. Catholics voted 55% for Carter in 1976.

Several points should be made regarding this constituency:

1. Relationship between Catholics and Urban Areas.
2. Relationship between Catholics and ethnic groups including Hispanics.
3. Understanding their parishes, as they relate to neighborhood, cultural and fraternal associations.
4. Diversity within the Catholic community:
  - a. role of institution -- U.S. Catholic Conference (USCC)
  - b. grassroots and other Catholic organizations.
  - c. progressive Catholics are alienated because of budget cuts dealing with social programs.
  - d. conservatives and some progressives are alienated on the abortion issue and the Administration's position on tuition tax credit.
1. Meetings/Events Organized by the White House:
  - a. Catholics (150) were invited to briefing for Religious leaders on 9/28/78. A White House reception followed.
  - b. U.S. Catholic Conference (USCC) representatives attended briefings on Defense Bill, Foreign Assistance Bill, Human Rights commemoration and Budget briefings.
2. Events Attended:

No major ones, but informal meetings.

3. Work Completed, in Process and Future Possibilities:

a. Death of two Popes -- Worked on delegation; lists of Bishops to receive sympathy letters from the President, assisted speech writers.

b. Memorandum on San Antonio missions issue -- communicated with local Catholic leadership in Texas.

4. Future Possibilities:

Considering recommendation on attendance by President or Vice President at next meeting of National Conference of Catholic Charities meeting (President attended during campaign and has declined invitations since).

NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

We are working with OMB and DPS on possible recommendations to you on some legislative concerns which have been raised by neighborhood groups:

(1) Introduction in 1979 of an Administration bill to renew Home Mortgage Disclosure Act which expires in the Spring of 1980 and which requires banking institutions to disclose where deposits originate and where home mortgage loans are made.

(2) Reintroduction of S. 270 (Intervenor Funding) with possible alterations. The basic thrust of this bill is to increase citizen participation and make it more effective.

(3) Reauthorization of expiring legislation for CSA, expired 1978 -- presently operating on Continuing Resolution (including \$12 million supplemental for Community Development Credit Unions).

(4) Reauthorization of expiring legislation for ACTION -- expired 1978 -- presently operating on Continuing Resolution.

(5) Supplemental appropriations for:

HUD - Neighborhood Self Help	\$ 15 million
HUD - Livable Cities	\$ 5 million
Consumer Co-op Bank	Funding as
presented in President's FY '80 Budget and	
FY '79 supplemental requests.	

(6) LEAA Community Anti-Crime -- restore to level of \$15 million in appropriations. Congress had cut back program by \$8 million.



D

## CATHOLIC CONCERNS

Following a meeting with you, the Catholic Bishops have provided us with listings of major concerns. Copies are attached. Although individual issues have been dealt with, we are planning a meeting with the United States Catholic Conference representatives and appropriate Administration officials for further discussions. There are areas of agreement and disagreement, and some areas where further exploration might lead to agreement. Most important is to give a sense of participation in formulating policy.

We have held informal meetings with Catholic leaders, who were supportive of the President during the campaign, and they feel disappointed and ignored: conservative Catholics because of tuition tax credit and abortion issues (including the appointment of Sarah Weddington); progressive Catholics because of budget cutbacks that support progressive social programs.

6. Education:

a. Assure the full implementation of the ESEA Act reauthorized by the 95th Congress. For example:

(1) a better record on by passes (only 8 have been completed and 88 more are pending)

(2) the Deputy Commissioner for Non-public Education, authorized in this legislation, should be given the same treatment as the other Deputy Commissioners.

b. Tuition-Tax Credit or some alternative that assists parents of children attending non-public schools.

c. A provision for Non-public School Office, headed by an Assistant Secretary, should be included in the proposed legislation to create a cabinet level Department of Education.

d. The President should be asked to publish an executive order to be sent to all Federal agencies dealing with private education, mandating the agencies to provide equitable services to non-public school children according to legislation and to the regulations of their agencies.

7. They support the development of a national policy supportive of family life.

8. They support a human life amendment to the Constitution to protect the right to life of the unborn.

9. They support the development of programs which provide the necessary help for every pregnant woman to carry her pregnancy to term.

10. They oppose the legislation of euthanasia.

11. They oppose the efforts at population control internationally through aggressive AID policies and practices and domestically through federally funded contraception, sterilization and abortion.

12. Bureaucratic Problems:

- a. Unemployment Compensation: Secretary Marshall's ruling that Congress' statutory exclusion applies only to "those strictly church duties performed by church employees pursuant to their religious responsibilities with the schools." This decision ignores the institutional status of church schools and emphasizes instead sacerdotal functions; this ruling, in their view, is contrary to the legislative history of the exclusion.
- b. Financial Reporting: The Treasury Department's 1977 ruling that "integrated auxiliaries of a church" are only those organizations which are "exclusively religious."
- c. Voter Education: Internal Revenue Service ruling (June 1978) that an organization would lose its tax exempt status if it published candidates' responses to a questionnaire "where some of the questions evidenced bias on certain issues or where a single issue group publishes responses even if there is no disclosed bias."
- d. Presumption of Discrimination: Internal Revenue Services' proposed ruling which would subject any private or church-related school to a "badge of discrimination" if it expanded its enrollment or established a new school at or about the time of desegregation of public schools and had an insignificant number of minority students.

The following are the principal issues of concern for the United States Catholic Conference (USCC) in the coming year regarding U.S. foreign policy from the perspective of the church's ministry of justice and peace:

- 1. SALT II Ratification: a principal goal; they are prepared for a significant public education and legislative effort similar to the Panama Canal ratification.
- 2. Human Rights - Ratification of the Covenants: they believe that ratification of the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, along with the

optional protocol, to be very necessary for continued U.S. credibility on human rights. They further support ratification of the Conventions on Genocide and Racial Discrimination as well as the American Convention on Human Rights.

3. Middle East and Lebanon: their position is stated in the 1978 statement of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, delivered to the President in November.

4. Latin America - Nicaragua: the resolution of this case in a way which provides for the exercise of self-determination for Nicaragua on the part of the broadly based opposition to President Somoza is a crucial test of U.S. human rights policy in Latin America.

5. Southern Africa: the USCC is involved in the cases of Rhodesia, Namibia and South Africa; they have especially good contacts with the church in Rhodesia.

6. Foreign Assistance and Foreign Economic Policy: the USCC will again be very supportive of a significant foreign assistance program by the U.S. and also has very high interest in the shape and substance of the U.S. position being prepared for the UNCTAD meeting in 1979.

MOST REVEREND JOHN R. QUINN, ARCHBISHOP OF SAN FRANCISCO  
*President*

MOST REVEREND THOMAS C. KELLY, O.P.  
*General Secretary*

REVEREND MONSIGNOR THOMAS J. LEONARD  
*Associate General Secretary*

REVEREND JOSEPH L. CHARRON, C.P.P.S.  
*Associate General Secretary*

REVEREND DANIEL F. HOYE  
*Associate General Secretary*

November 21, 1978

### MEMORANDUM

In the last three years events have occurred that give the Churches just cause for concern about the attitude of the federal government towards Church institutions. This concern, which was reflected by the Catholic Bishops of the United States in their plenary meeting last week, has also been viewed with alarm by major Protestant and Jewish leaders.

Administrative agencies of the federal government have evidenced a pronounced trend towards reducing religious mission exclusively to worship functions. A classic example is the action of the Department of Labor with respect to the position of Church schools under the unemployment compensation law.

#### I. UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

In 1976, Congress deleted an exemption from the law which had allowed the states to exclude elementary and secondary schools from unemployment insurance coverage. However, it retained the statutory exclusion of "persons in the employ of a church or an organization operated primarily for religious purposes and controlled or principally supported by a church." When the Department of Labor advised the states that they must include all schools, including church schools, the Secretary of the United States Catholic Conference submitted a petition to the Secretary of the Department demonstrating that the parochial schools of the Catholic Church are essential components of the parish and that the pastor is responsible for the employment of all parish personnel, including lay teachers.

After a full hearing, the Secretary ruled that the statutory exclusion applied only to "those strictly church duties performed by church employees pursuant to their religious responsibilities with the schools." This decision completely ignored the institutions status of the schools and instead emphasized the sacerdotal functions contrary to the legislative history of the exclusion.

## II. FINANCIAL REPORTING

Similarly, the Treasury Department in 1977, when faced with the issue of defining "integrated auxiliaries of a church" for financial reporting purposes, ruled that only those organizations which are "exclusively religious" came within the definition of the term. This term was not used in the legislative history of integrated auxiliaries of a church, but it was relied upon to limit the exemption to sacerdotal functions. In short, it de-institutionalized the Church by administrative fiat.

## III. VOTER EDUCATION

Another category of concern is reflected in vague, overly broad harassing rulings of the Internal Revenue Service. Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code states that an organization exempt under this section, "may not participate or intervene in (including publishing or distributing statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office."

Despite recent rulings by the Supreme Court of the United States giving broad protections to corporations in this area, the Internal Revenue Service published Revenue Ruling 78-248 in June of this year advising that an organization would lose its tax exempt status if it published candidates' responses to a questionnaire "where some of the questions evidenced bias on certain issues or where a single issue group publishes responses, even if there is no disclosed bias."

This ruling has had a chilling effect on the Church press and has in many instances prevented it from accepting questionnaires or advertisements if they are consistent with the newspaper's position on a particular issue. The voice of the churches on moral issues has been stifled by this constitutionally suspect ruling and with it the peoples' right to know.

## IV. PRESUMPTION OF DISCRIMINATION

On August 22, 1978, the Internal Revenue Service published a Proposed Revenue Procedure which, if finalized in its present form, would unnecessarily harass the church schools which are not discriminating in any of their schools. This Proposed Revenue Ruling is in addition to a Revenue Procedure adopted in 1972, and one in 1975, on the same subject, namely, discrimination in private schools. The Proposed Ruling would subject any private or church-related schools to a "badge of discrimination" if it expanded its

MEMORANDUM

November 21, 1978

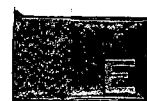
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enrollment or established a new school at or about the time of desegregation of the public schools in the community, and had an insignificant number of minority students. This number is determined by reference to the minority population in the public school district, but in most large cities, such as Los Angeles or the boroughs of New York, there is only one public school district.

The Catholic schools do not discriminate but they establish schools where the Catholic population demands it, regardless of the minority population of the district. The same is true of expansion of school facilities, yet these schools would be subject to review if they have a school population that does not comply with the presumptions of discrimination set forth in the Proposed Procedure. They and the sponsoring Church would be subject to the loss of tax exemption unless the school establishes an affirmative action program. This is a gross intrusion into the internal affairs of church school systems which do not discriminate but which establish schools to meet the needs of local church populations.

We have requested that the Proposed Revenue Procedure be withdrawn, for in its present form it is causing substantial religious unrest, concern and unnecessary religious harassment.





## ETHNIC CONSTITUENCY

### BACKGROUND

#### Introduction

There are several observations that must be made to deal effectively with this constituency.

The ethnic constituency differs from many of the other groups the Administration is dealing with and is much more complicated.

America's ethnic population is estimated to include 70 million people, who are represented in every economic class and in every state in the country. However, this broad ethnic constituency is not uniform. It is subdivided into innumerable groups according to nationality, religion, special concerns, political perspective, economic status, time of immigration to the United States, and any combination of the preceeding factors. However, a key factor is the relationship between Ethnic and Catholics.

#### Ethnic-Catholic Relationship

The majority of ethnics are Catholic and vice versa. Due to inadequacy of census data on ethnics, the statistics on Catholics must be applied to ethnics.

Ethnic-Catholics are important because of their number and their location in key cities and states politically important:

1. There are approximately 70 million Ethnic Americans.
2. There are approximately 50 million Catholics who constitute 23-25% of the electorate.
3. 50% of Catholics live in New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Massachusetts, California, New Jersey.
4. 70% of Catholics live in the six states above, plus Ohio, Michigan, Texas, Wisconsin.
5. Nine of the 10 largest states are Catholic strongholds.
6. Connecticut and Louisiana are also Catholic strongholds.
7. In Rhode Island, Catholics are a majority of the population.
8. There is a recent migration to suburbs surrounding urban areas.

New York City suburbs - 52% Catholic (Westchester 48%, Fairfield 42%, Bergen 50%, Nassau - Suffolk - Rockland 55%)

Understanding this relationship is key in approaching this constituency. Working through religious institutions is essential. Struggling to preserve their culture and tradition from the old country, immigrants set up their own religious and cultural institutions. The Church (national parishes) enabled immigrants to sustain old values, beliefs and develop new institutions in an alien society. The local parishes hosted most religious cultural and social events, and festivals. It housed many of the social fraternal and self-help organizations, and was the place where friends met, education and social services provided, language, culture and family values preserved and transmitted. The parishes and neighborhood groups and associations are important in approaching and reaching ethnics and Catholics.

Greek-Americans also have similar relationships to their religious institutions. Some of them are Catholic, the majority of them are Greek Orthodox.

Note: It is important to note that the Hispanic community is heavily Catholic, 85-90%, and have very close ties to their parishes and cultural centers. The Spanish Division (Paul Sedillo) of the United States Catholic Conference will be conducting voter registration drives through Catholic churches throughout the United States. In working with Hispanics, one must relate to the Catholic Church network.

The Majority of Ethnic/Catholics are Democrats

Party Identification (Gallup)

	% Democratic	% Republican	% Independent
1960	57	18	25
1971	52	19	27
1975	52	14	31

NOTE: The Twentieth Century Fund study in 1972 shows 47% Democratic, 38% Independent, and 15% Republican.

CATHOLIC PRESIDENTIAL VOTING

	Democratic Candidate	1952-1976 % Voting Democratic
1952	Stevenson	55
1956	Stevenson	51
1960	Kennedy	78
1964	Johnson	76
1968	Humphrey	59
1972	McGovern	48
1976	Carter	55

	Democratic Candidate	1928-1948 Estimated % Voting Democratic
1928	Smith	85-90
1932	Roosevelt	85-90
1936	Roosevelt	81
1940	Roosevelt	73
1944	Roosevelt	73
1948	Truman	66

### The Organized Ethnic

Most long-established political ethnic organizations, with the exception of Italian groups in general, were founded because of a concern about foreign policy and the situation in a particular native country, such as the Polish-American Congress, the Lithuanian-American Community, USA, Inc., the Ukrainian National Congress, etc. The leadership of many of these organizations is comprised of highly-educated people who were active citizens in their native countries, and came here after World War II to escape the oppression of Soviet domination. This is especially true of Eastern European groups. These groups are the ones concerned about "Captive Nations" issues and human rights. Some Southern European and Mid-Eastern groups have also formed around foreign policy issues such as Cyprus and Lebanon.

For the most part, these groups perceive that they have been written off by the Democratic Party and their top leadership is Republican. They have received encouragement and legitimacy from some Republican conservatives.

There is also a large network of organized groups which have a fraternal, social, or cultural focus, and include many first, second, and third generation ethnics.

With the recent emphasis on ethnicity, all groups are attempting to expand and include their youth. New arrivals to the United States usually join these groups because of their organizational visibility, common cultural ties, common experiences, and common language.

Organized ethnics are not as numerous as the unorganized, yet they are able to express their views more effectively because they have greater control of ethnic newspapers and other news media.

### The Unorganized Ethnic

This large group is composed mostly of first generation ethnic Americans who immigrated to the U.S. from Eastern and Southern Europe between the 1880's -- 1930's. They were mostly farmers, laborers and had little formal education. Their descendants often remained in the working class for two generations. These second and third generation ethnic-Americans, although they are sensitive to the needs and problems of their native countries, are more concerned about maintaining their culture and heritage in the United States. These ethnics are generally of the working class,

mostly Catholic, traditionally Democratic, and are heavily represented in labor unions and in service occupations. There are, however, young intellectual and professional American Ethnic-Catholics who are gaining access to some centers of power, and are more aware of real or perceived acts of discrimination against them than were their parents.

Polls show that Catholic white ethnics as a whole are more inclined to favor racial equality than the average American and also to support progressive legislation necessary to meet the needs of poor people and members of minority groups. But many of those who belong to the ascendant middle class feel that, through affirmative action and other programs, they are being asked to bear the major burden of past social injustices. Just at the time when they are making it by the rules -- hard work, sacrifice, educational and professional credentials, and the like -- the rules are being changed and they are being passed over.

Although an increasing number of ethnics are beginning to move to the suburbs, many still live in large urban areas and are interested in neighborhood and social issues. Presently many Ethnic-Catholics have joined with other religious groups in asking the President to provide aid to parents of children in non-public schools. Some are also involved in the pro-life, anti-abortion movement.

Unorganized ethnics include those who, because of past discrimination, have rejected their ethnic identification, as well as those who are just beginning to identify with their culture and roots. Unorganized ethnics also include disaffiliated exile political ethnics who became disenchanted with the lack of movement and conservatism of their colleagues and are now uninvolved. This group represents an untapped source of strength, talent, influence, and votes, and would probably become reinvolved if approached in an appropriate manner.

### The Ethnic View of the Situation

Ethnic-Americans feel that there has been a period of serious neglect of ethnics and Catholics by the Democratic Party and the Administration. In the average ethnic family, often both husband and wife must work to make ends meet, yet view themselves as part of the group which is highly taxed to support government social programs, and receives no direct benefit from them. They feel that their specific needs (dealing with education, social services, loans, etc.) are not considered legitimate concerns.

Like other Americans the white ethnics are keenly aware of the fact that the Federal government is having a profound impact upon their lives -- an impact which is likely to grow, not diminish -- and they want to have a greater voice in decisions which the Federal government is making. They do not feel that they are included or represented in policy-making positions and discussions. They feel that they are largely ignored and taken for granted unless they are protesting, yet they are sensitive even in their silence. They receive an abundance of attention during campaigns, then are promptly forgotten.

Three examples of "neglect" are often cited and have serious implications:

1. The discontinuation of the White House Office of Ethnic Affairs established by former President Ford in March of 1975, and the fact that the duties of that office have been assigned to one temporary consultant for ethnic affairs and neighborhood issues.
2. The fact that the White House Staff includes Special Assistants to the President or other permanent staff for liaison with Blacks, Women, Jews, and Hispanics, yet excludes a comparable position for liaison with ethnics.
3. The resolution passed by the Democratic National Committee to no longer consider ethnic groups as "special interest" groups.

For the most part, the ethnic constituency feels written off by the Democratic Party, while at the same time this constituency has received recognition, encouragement, and support from the Republican National Committee and individual Republican political figures, such as Senator Dole and Representative Crane. Also the decision by the Republicans to ~~have~~ their convention in Detroit is seen as a special overture to urban Catholics and ethnics in addition to other minority groups.

In 1976 President Carter was an unknown to urban ethnic Catholics. Targeted special concern and campaign efforts were successful by working through neighborhood groups, Catholic parishes, and ethnic organizations. Experience during the campaign in 1976 and also our recent efforts to invite ethnics to the White House prove that Ethnic-Americans respond enthusiastically when recognized and support public officials who are willing to take them

seriously. Our organized efforts on Polish Hill during the campaign was an example of this enthusiasm and receptiveness. Admittedly, it is difficult to deal with such a heterogeneous and fragmented constituency. However, one major issue common to all groups is the desire for recognition.

New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Wisconsin in 1976 voted Democratic in 1976 when in large measure ethnic Catholics returned to the Democratic Party especially in Ohio. Connecticut, New Jersey, Illinois and Michigan are heavily ethnic states where not enough ethnics returned to the Democratic Party.

The ethnic affairs activity at the White House is a key in maintaining the relationships and work started in 1976. Additional contacts and further networking needs to be developed to provide for support of Administration programs and future support in 1980.





## ETHNIC HERITAGE STUDIES (ESEA TITLE IX)

The following comments are intended solely to illuminate policy issues and encourage discussion among interested parties. While the following list may not be all-inclusive, it does reflect the major points which should be considered in any policy review of the Ethnic Heritage Studies Act.

1. Ethnic Studies, under ESEA Title IX, continues to attract far more proposals than there are funds available to support worthwhile projects. In fact, this activity enjoys an extraordinarily high degree of sustained constituent interest. The question of additional funds for Title IX (or full funding) should take into account the constituent interests, program funding patterns to date, and legislative changes that may be desirable.
2. The Office of Education, Commissioner of Education is presently considering the transfer of the Ethnic Studies Branch from the Division of International Education to a new Small Discretionary Grants Program Unit. This new unit would also house metric education, environmental education, community education and 6 to 10 other such discretionary activities. The implications of this move has severe consequences and should be carefully considered. A special meeting with experts in the field of ethnic studies should be held and consultations obtained before plans are finalized.
3. The Department's lack of action in appointing new members to the National Advisory Council, with only five remaining members, may well be seen as related to the proposed move of the Branch. The Council does not have enough members for a quorum and its work has come to a virtual halt. (They have been frustrated and question present commitment by Office of Education.)
4. In addition to the above developments, the Personnel Office for the Office of Education has independently recommended that the Ethnic Heritage Studies Branch Chief position grade should be GS-14 rather than GS-15. (This recommendation

is being appealed.) In tandem with the other moves noted above, the effect of this action will no doubt be to convince ethnic constituents that the Carter Administration lacks any interest in ethnic affairs.

5. In its last meeting, the members of the National Advisory Council expressed keen interest in the work of the Presidential Commission on Foreign Language and International Studies. How these issues will be addressed is a major question still to be answered. However, the Commission's concern with declining foreign language enrollments and the general interest in foreign language learning among American students, and the growing or continuing interest in ethnicity seem to be two trends of significance (and possible utility) for both groups.
6. The place of Ethnic Studies in the Administration's scheme of things should also be considered in connection with the proposed Department of Education. If the program should be consolidated with other "small" grants activities, while Bilingual Education, Indian Education, and Developing Institutions programs enjoy much higher status and funding in the Department, this will no doubt convey a further negative impression to ethnic audiences across the land.
7. Finally, the International Division -- and the Ethnic Studies Branch -- continue to engage in what has become an almost annual cycle of surrendering office space and staff to other high priority programs within this Agency. This is an example of a small program that means a great deal to an important constituency.